

**Evening Telegraph**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1864.

**ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS ON PEACE.****The Doctrine of State Sovereignty.****IT'S ADOPTION THE ONLY WAY TO PEACE.****Hopes from the Movement in the North.****THE GEORGIA RESOLUTIONS.****A "Ray of Light from Chicago."****A MILTONIC APOSTROPHE.**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—The following letter from the Hon. Elihu Vedder, Hon. Alexander H. Stephens, giving his views upon the peace movement, was written in answer to a letter addressed to him by several of his fellow-citizens of Georgia:

CRAWFORDSVILLE, Ga., Sept. 22, 1864.—Gentlemen!—You will please excuse me for not answering your letter sooner. I have been absent nearly a week on a visit to my brothers, who have been quite out of health for some time. Your letter I found here on my return home yesterday. The delay of my reply thus occasioned I regret.

Without further explanation or apology allow me now to say to you that no person living can possibly feel a more ardent desire for an end to this war than I do. But I really do not see that it is in my power or right, or that of any number of persons in our position, to inaugurate any movement that will even tend to aid in bringing about a result that would so many more desirous.

The movement by our Legislature at its last session, the adoption of the Executive, on this subject, was by far the most properly constituted for such a purpose.

That movement, in my judgment, was timely, judicious and in the right direction. Not has it been without the resolute organization of that party at the South which has made it successful, but it is a part of the fruits of it. These, it is to be hoped will be followed by others of a more marked character by the bold soldiers who sincerely desire peace upon correct terms will give that movement thus inaugurated all the aid in their power.

The resolutions of the Georgia Legislature, at its last session, are in every particular wise and well drawn, and set forth very clearly those principles which alone there can be permanent peace between the different sections of this extensive, once happy and prosperous, but now distracted country.

Long and peaceful solutions of all present troubles are the only ones which will insure a long and happy future, not more so than the simple recognition of the fundamental principle and truth upon which all American constitutional liberty is founded, and upon the maintenance of which alone it can be preserved; that is, the sovereignty, the ultimate authority of the State, and the absolute dominion of Legislative government over the people at the North and to the world. It is the only key-note to peace—permanent, lasting peace—consistent with the security of the public liberty.

The old Confederation was formed upon this principle. The old Union was formed upon the same principle. The new Union will be formed and maintained between any State, North or South, securing public liberty, upon any other principle.

The whole framework of American institutions, which in so short a time had won the admiration of the world, and to which we were indebted for such an unparalleled career of prosperity and happiness, was based upon the principle that our present troubles sprung from a departure from this cardinal principle, trust in a violation of this essential law of our political organization.

In the four centuries and the ancestors of those who are waging this unholy crusade against us together produced two great and eternal truths—the maintenance of a Government, not individual members of society.

The consent of the governed refers to the welfare of the people, to the orators, to the statesmen who are affecting their separation from the mother country.

It was upon this principle that the original thirteen equal and co-sovereign States formed the Federal compact of the old Union in 1815. It is upon the same principle that the present unequal and co-sovereign States, and our Confederacy formed their union.

It is to this principle that the old Union that results from dereliction.

It is needful here to state that by "people," and "government," in this announcement, is meant communities and bound together, constituting a Government, not individual members of society.

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